

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-21 (Canceled)

22. (New) A wall skirting device adapted to be associated with a wall structure of a building comprising:

an interior wall cladding carried by a wall frame and in which a gap is provided between a bottom edge of said cladding and a bottom wall frame member of said frame, wherein said wall skirting device:

is adapted to fit along and support said bottom edge of said wall cladding and cover said gap;

includes a wall skirting member movable away from said wall structure to allow for access to said wall frame through said gap, whereby said wall skirting member is secured to said wall structure by one or more clips which couple said skirting member to lower portions of upright wall frame members and/or bottom wall frame members that are exposed by said gap in said wall cladding; and

includes at least one bait container for treating or attracting termites, insects, or vermin in said wall structure.

23. (New) A wall skirting device adapted to be associated with a wall structure of a building comprising:

an interior wall cladding carried by a wall frame and in which a gap is provided between a bottom edge of said cladding and a bottom wall frame member of said frame, wherein said wall skirting device:

is adapted to fit along and support said bottom edge of said wall cladding and cover said gap;

includes a wall skirting member movable away from said wall structure to allow for access to said wall frame through said gap, whereby said wall skirting member is secured to said wall structure by magnetic coupling means; and

includes at least one bait container for treating or attracting termites, insects, or vermin in said wall structure.

24. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 23, wherein said magnetic coupling means includes a magnetic strip affixed to a rearward facing surface of said skirting member and a complementary metal strip affixed to an outwardly facing surface of a horizontal frame member of said frame, magnetic attraction between the magnetic strip and metal strip holding said skirting member in place relative to said wall frame.

25. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 22, wherein said wall skirting member includes a recess in which a lower edge of said wall skirting member is located and thereby supported.

26. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 25, wherein said recess is provided in an upper inside portion of said skirting member.

27. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 22, wherein said bottom edge of said wall cladding is releasably connected to said wall skirting member.

28. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 27, wherein said bottom edge is fitted with a rail and a releasable connection means is provided between said rail and said wall skirting member.

29. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 28, wherein said releasable connection means comprises a slot in said rail and a clip member extending from said wall skirting member which is releasably receivable in said slot in said rail.

30. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 29, wherein said rail further includes a slot or channel into which said bottom edge of said wall cladding can be located.

31. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 22, wherein a support framework is attached along said bottom edge of said wall cladding and said wall skirting member is mountable to said support framework.

32. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 23, wherein a support framework is attached along said bottom edge of said wall cladding and said wall skirting member is mountable to said support framework.

33. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 31, wherein a support framework extends between said bottom edge of said wall cladding and said bottom frame member and is affixed to said wall frame.

34. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 33, wherein said bottom edge of said wall cladding is located in a recess or channel in an upper portion of said support framework so as to be supported longitudinally to said wall structure.

35. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 31, wherein said wall skirting member is releasably attached to said support framework.

36. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 35, wherein said support framework includes an outwardly facing slot adapted to receive at least one securing clip or projection on a rear face of said wall skirting member.

37. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 35, wherein a magnetic latching means is operatively connected between said support framework and said wall skirting member.

38. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 35, wherein said wall skirting member is pivotally or hinged-mounted to said support framework.

39. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 38, wherein a latching means is provided to releasably retain said wall skirting member in a closed position.

40. (New) The wall skirting device of claim 39, wherein said latching means comprises co-operable latching members on said support framework and said skirting member.

41. (New) A wall structure for a building including a gap provided between a bottom edge of an interior wall cladding, said wall cladding being carried by a wall frame, and a bottom wall frame member of said frame whereby lower portions of said wall frame are accessible through said gap, and a wall skirting device adapted to fit along and support said bottom edge of said wall cladding and to cover said gap, said wall skirting means being defined in claim 22.